

THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

January 5-11, 2018
Volume XLVII, Number 1

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Netanyahu: IDF has attacked 40 Hamas targets in Gaza in recent weeks

By JTA staff

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shot back at critics who said his government has failed to take action to stop rocket fire from Gaza on southern Israel.

“Israel views Hamas as responsible for any firing at us from the Gaza Strip. Since we destroyed the terrorist tunnel that penetrated into our territory several weeks ago, the IDF has attacked approximately 40 Hamas targets including an additional attack by the air force last night,” Netanyahu said at the start of the December 31 regular Cabinet meeting.

Netanyahu was referring to an Israel Defense Forces strike on the night of December 30 on a Hamas observation post in the southern Gaza Strip. It was the second retaliatory strike on Hamas in Gaza for three rockets fired as southern Israel on December

29. Two of the rockets were intercepted by the Iron Dome anti-missile protection system. One of the rockets disrupted a memorial concert near Kibbutz Kfar Aza marking the 24th birthday of slain Israeli soldier Oron Shaul, who was killed in the 2014 Gaza War and whose remains are held by Hamas in Gaza.

Labor party leader Avi Gabbay on the night of December 30 criticized Netanyahu for failing to stop the rocket fire and for not taking stronger action against Gaza.

Netanyahu also said at the beginning of the Cabinet meeting: “To all those who are carping in the media, people who never held security responsibility for even a minute and never made even one security decision, I suggest that they calm down. The defense minister and I, along with the chief-of-staff, the head of the ISA and the heads of the security services are leading



An Iron Dome missile defense battery near the southern Israeli town of Ashdod. (Photo by David Buimovitch/Flash 90)

a vigorous and responsible policy that is backed by this government, a policy that has – in recent years – made Israel quieter

and more secure than it has been in decades. Attempts to attack us have not ceased, but our policy is clear – whoever tries to hurt us, we will hurt them.”

Gabbay served in an intelligence unit during his regular army service. He has an M.B.A. from Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

The rockets that have been fired from Gaza over the last three weeks in December reportedly are not being fired by Hamas, but by smaller Gaza terror organizations. Still, the government and the IDF hold Hamas responsible for all terror activities in the coastal strip.

Israel’s Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman on December 30, in an interview with Hadashot news, said the mortars that were fired at Israel on the morning of December 29 originated in Iran and were provided by the Islamic State to small terror groups in Gaza.

JLI winter course to look at the art of communication

“How has social media and all of our devices affected our society and the ways we now communicate?”

This question is being asked by many thinking people and has generated a large body of academic study and inquiry. Now JLI is tackling this issue with its all new winter course: “Communication: Its Art and Soul.” The six-week course will be taught twice locally at the Chabad Center, 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal. The evening section will be held on Mondays at 7 pm beginning on January 22; the morning section will be held on Wednesdays at 9:30 am beginning on January 24. The course fee is \$79, or \$140 for couples and multiple sign-ups.

Interested participants are urged to register before Friday, January 12, to ensure ample text book supply.

“Jewish wisdom includes many powerful and original insights into the art of communication that are more relevant today than ever,” explained Rivkah Slonim, the local

JLI instructor. “The goal of this course is to mine these texts and seek out their teachings. I believe this can help us reclaim the lost art of deep human connection in spite of our devices. Many people take communication for granted, but it is the very fabric of our society. The goal of the course is simply to make us better parents, better spouses, better co-workers, better friends and better people across the board.”

“In Jewish philosophy, communication is more than just a tool: it is who we are. Humans are defined as communicative beings with a communicative soul, and aligning ourselves with this soul is our *raison d’être*. In ‘Communication: Its Art and Soul,’ we contrast Jewish thought with scientific discovery to unearth the essence of communication and how to utilize its powers to better ourselves, our relationships and all of society,” reads a description of the course on JLI’s website.

The course has received “rave” reviews

from relationship professionals, including Harville Hendrix, founder of IMAGO Relationship Therapy and author of the best-selling book “Getting the Love You Want.” Hendrix refers to the course as “truly artful and soulful – an absolute must.”

“The integration of these two streams of knowledge – the secular/psychological and Jewish tradition – is remarkable,” writes Mona Fishbane, former director of couple training at the Chicago Center for Family Health, endorsing the course. “The approach is sophisticated, practical and sure to be helpful to students.”

Physicians can earn nine CME credits for attending “Communication: Its Art and Soul,” and can earn an additional six credits with self-study texts and completing an on-line quiz.

Like all JLI programs, the course is designed to appeal to people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish

learning. All JLI courses are open to the public and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

Those wishing to join the course may call Chabad at 797-0015, e-mail Slonim at rslonim@Jewishbu.com or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and for other course-related information.

JLI, the adult education branch of Chabad-Lubavitch, offers programs in more than 800 locations in the U.S. and in numerous foreign countries, including Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Panama, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela. More than 400,000 students have attended JLI classes since the organization was founded in 1998.

BD luncheon speaker to give “A Close Look at Judeo-Spanish in the 20th Century” on Jan. 13

Beth David’s Saturday, January 13, Shabbat luncheon speaker will be Bryan Kirschen, assistant professor of Spanish and linguistics in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and in the Linguistics Program at Binghamton University. He will discuss “Welcome to La Amerika: A Close Look at Judeo-Spanish in the 20th Century.”

In 2017, he was named one of *The New York Jewish Week’s* “36 Under 36” for his work on Judeo-Spanish. Through his studies as a graduate student, Kirschen says he became particularly interested in Judeo-Spanish (often referred to as Ladino), a language that combines elements from Spanish, Hebrew and Arabic and has a cultural connection to Sephardic Jews who lived

in Spain until 1492. Kirschen received his Ph.D. in 2015 from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he specialized in Spanish, Judeo-Spanish and sociolinguistics.

Kirschen will explore the role of language in the assimilation of Sephardic Jews in the United States over the past century. At the start of the 20th century, Kirschen says, as many as 60,000 Judeo-Spanish-speaking Sephardim immigrated to the United States. Not only did they find themselves in a country where English was the majority language, but also in cities where other varieties of Spanish were spoken. In addition, Sephardic



Bryan Kirschen

Jews found themselves situated against a backdrop of more than two million Yiddish-speaking Ashkenazim, and many often questioned the utility of their mother tongue. Kirschen has conducted field research and has gathered oral histories of Judeo-Spanish speakers, many in their 70s and 80s. “They represent such rich lives and histories,” Kirschen says. “They have much to share.”

Kirschen’s interest in Judeo-Spanish has a personal dimension, “which makes his talks particularly fascinating,” organizers say. Speaking about his scholarly research, Kirschen says, “I thought it would be a

great way to learn about my own religious background – but from a different stance – [and] continue my studies in Spanish and my interest in language, and really learn about something that I thought was so linguistically, culturally and historically rich.”

Beth David’s luncheon speaker series takes place the second Saturday of the month after Shabbat morning services and is open to the community. There is no charge for the luncheon, but Beth David welcomes donations to the Luncheon Fund in order to keep the program going. Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The joys of *mitzvot*
The JFS Notes column reflects on Operation Brotherhood 2017 and a few volunteers’ experiences.
..... Page 2

“People of the Book”
A rabbinical student fluent in Arabic is teaching Muslims about Judaism through a video project.
..... Page 5

News in brief...
Antisemitic incidents in U.S. up in 2017; France denies targeting Jews for tax evasion; and more.
..... Page 8

Special Sections
Book Review..... 2
Legal Notices..... 4
Dine Out..... 5
Classifieds..... 8

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE NOTES

Operation Brotherhood 2017 – the joys of the *mitzvot*

ROZ ANTOUN, DIRECTOR

It was frigid and blustery outside this past Christmas Day, yet the weather didn't stop the hundreds of intrepid volunteers from preparing, serving and delivering meals for the annual Bandera Family Free Christmas Dinner. As in past years, the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton and Jewish Family Service helped to coordinate those people from the Jewish community who wanted to give of their time to the Bandera project, which needed drivers to deliver the food to people who couldn't make it to the American Legion Post 80 on Main Street in Binghamton for the community dinner.

Remembering that many of the recipients of the hot meals are either disabled, immobile, isolated and without their own transportation, or those who rely on public transportation that doesn't run on holidays, explains why meals have to be delivered. I think it's easy to forget that not everyone has the wherewithal to get around town, so these deliveries serve a special purpose. Many of the volunteers from the Jewish community have been involved for years

and look forward to helping out in the future. As one man told me, "I've done this for 10 years and will do it again."

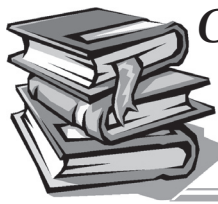
The Bandera family began this program 28 years ago serving fewer than 100 meals on Christmas Day. This year, more than 3,000 meals were served, not only to provide a traditional hot Christmas dinner, but to offer fellowship, too. The project has grown so large, that now Meals on Wheels is fulfilling its recipients' needs on Christmas Day with the meals from Bandera. So, this change explains how the Jewish Federation transitioned from delivering Meals on Wheels to delivering the Christmas meals for Bandera.

Sylvia Diamond, our volunteer extraordinaire of the Jewish community, said of her experience delivering the meals this year, "It was very satisfying. We were blessed and thanked by the recipients for bringing the meals." To my surprise, as I delivered two meals to one household, the woman who took them in offered me a tip of \$5. I thanked her, kindly refused her generosity and asked her to donate

the money back to the Bandera Family Free Christmas to be used for next year's needs.

Jon and Pam Burgman delivered meals to Windsor and Kirkwood. Jon said, "People were very appreciative." When I thanked him for handling the rural route, which wouldn't have been for all our volunteers to navigate, he replied, "Well, those people need to be served, too." And then he thanked me for getting this together and making it possible for people in our Jewish community to be involved in this mitzvah.

The Bandera family deserves more thanks, accolades and appreciation than I know how to put out there. Their generosity of time, talent and spirit benefits us all. Not only were people served a special meal, but this project continues to make possible the sharing of kindness and caring among people, something I think is badly needed in our present landscape. Each year that I volunteer for this project, I wonder who benefits more, the recipients of the food or me?



Off the Shelf

Chabon and Englander

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

If asked to name 10 major contemporary Jewish American writers, most people's lists would include the novelists Michael Chabon and Nathan Englander. Chabon is the far more prolific writer: although they differ in age by only seven years, Chabon has published three times as many books as Englander. Critics – and readers – may debate who is the better author, but most will agree both authors' works generally focus on the art of being Jewish. That's true in their latest novels: Chabon's "Moonglow" (Harper) offers a look at the Jewish past, while "Dinner at the Center of the Earth" by Englander (Alfred A. Knopf) presents a moral dilemma based on contemporary Israeli politics.

"Moonglow" is ostensibly a memoir of the narrator's grandfather, as told to the narrator while his grandfather is on his death bed. Although readers do learn about the unnamed narrator, who is a novelist, and his mother, they play only a minor role in the drama. The grandfather, a complex and intriguing character, tells his story in a roundabout way – skipping back and forth between different periods of his life – which creates tension and suspense that would otherwise be missing.

Born in Philadelphia to parents who showed a marked preference for his younger, more bookish brother, the grandfather (whose name is also never revealed) learned to use his fists and his wits to survive. Far more intelligent than his parents thought, he joined the Army and received a special assignment during World War II, the telling of which is one of the best sections of the novel. However, the event that serves as the book's heart is when he meets his future wife, a damaged woman from Europe who comes complete with a young daughter. The grandfather makes it his life's purpose to protect them – something impossible due to many reasons beyond his control. His inability to fulfil this desire feeds the anger that began in his childhood and which at one point explodes.

The grandfather's interest in rockets and space travel informed a good part of his life, including his relationship to his wife. At one point, when trying to protect her from her past, he promises her that they will travel to the moon and the narrator explains why: "On the Moon there was no capital to the grind the working moonman down. And on the Moon, 230,000 miles from the stench of history, there

was no madness or memory of loss. The thing that made space flight difficult was the thing that, to my grandfather, made it beautiful: To reach escape velocity, my grandmother, like any spacefarer, would be obligated to leave almost everything behind her."

Although the characters are not practicing Jews, at one point, the grandfather notes that the Jewish rules of death and mourning serve a purpose: "It's 'Do this, do that. Don't do that.' That's what you need, somebody to tell you what to do. Tear a ribbon. Cover a mirror. Sit around for a week. Grow your beard for a month. And then for eleven months, every week you go to a synagogue, you stand up, and you just...." For a moment, he's lost for words except to talk about the "big hole" death leaves in your life. Then he speaks about the Mourner's *Kaddish*: "You stand up in front of everybody, and you point to the hole, and you say, 'Look at this. This is what I'm living with, this hole. Eleven months, every week. It doesn't go away, you don't 'put it behind you.'" He ends with the hope that someday you might get used to the loss, but notes that doesn't always happen. See "Chabon" on page 3

Opinion

In My Own Words

Technological and mechanical gratitudes

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

One recent morning I was running late because I wasn't feeling well. Rather than have people worry something was wrong, I texted someone in my office to let her know. After receiving a text back to say my text arrived, something clicked in me. How wonderful, I thought, to be able to send a message so quickly. The phone is still difficult for me, but sending the text was far faster than turning on the computer and sending an e-mail.

It may seem a little strange to feel so appreciative about technology that most people take for granted, but I really did feel grateful. My thoughts continued in that vain throughout the morning. For example, the weather was bitter cold and, as I shivered while walking through the parking lot to our office, I realized that I had several other technological and mechanical items for which to feel grateful. For example, instead of standing in the cold waiting for a bus to come, I was able to get into my car and drive to work.

I also knew that even though I was cold right that min-

ute, I was going to enter a warm building and, if my office wasn't warm enough (some are on the chilly side), I could plug in a heater. Indoor heat is a thing of wonder that we also take for granted. Years ago, a teacher disparaged those who thought fireplaces were romantic. She remembered the time before central heating and her description of trying to keep warm with only a fireplace was "you were always too hot on one side and freezing on the other."

We rarely take a moment to appreciate the ease that technology creates in contemporary times. That ease allows us to do more with our lives, or at least not be as tired as we might otherwise be. I know, of course, that there are downsides to technology: people spend too much time on their phones, while cars pollute the air and require fossil fuel, the attainment of which creates its own problems. But I think we need to pause periodically to think of the wonders with which we live that people 100 years ago could never have imagined.

Perhaps I'm more conscious of this because my mother will periodically exclaim how marvelous it is to sit at her kitchen table and watch a multitude of TV channels just by clicking on a button. She is amazed that she can sit in her living room and see movies from her childhood without having to leave the house. Her gratitude for being able to access material on the computer makes me not want to take these wonderful advances for granted.

So today, when your heat automatically turns on and electric bulbs light your house and your food is kept cold in a refrigerator or freezer, or heated without having to stoke a wood burning stove, take a moment to be thankful for the times in which we live. While far from perfect, those of us who are fortunate enough to live in comfort in a first world country should periodically make time to count our blessings – and, as Jews dedicated to *tikkun olam* (repair of the world), to also help those who lack the conveniences we take for granted.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER BINGHAMTON

Dr. Howard Warner, President
Sima Auerbach, Executive Director

607-724-2332 ~ www.jfgeb.org

The Reporter Editorial Board

Rachel Coker, chairwoman
Rebecca Goldstein Kahn, Ben Kasper,
Toby Kohn, Richard Lewis,
Robert Neuberger, Dora Polachek

HOW TO REACH THE REPORTER

Mail ~ The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Rd. Vestal, NY 13850

E-mail ~ TReporter@aol.com • Fax ~ 607-724-2311

Phone ~ 607-724-2360 or 800-779-7896

Extension#/Department ~ 1. Advertising 2. Business Office

3. Art Department 4. Circulation 6. Editorial/News

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton
BINGHAMTON, NY

OPINIONS

The views expressed in editorials and opinion pieces are those of each author and not necessarily the views of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

LETTERS

The Reporter welcomes letters on subjects of interest to the Jewish community. All letters must be signed and include a phone number; names may be withheld upon request.

ADS

The Reporter does not necessarily endorse any advertised products and services. In addition, the paper is not responsible for the kashruth of any advertiser's product or establishment.

DEADLINE

Regular weekly deadline is noon, Wednesday, for the following week's newspaper.

Executive Editor Rabbi Rachel Esserman
Layout Editor Diana Sochor
Advertising Bonnie Rozen
Production Coordinator Jenn DePersis
Bookkeeper Kathy Brown

Proofreaders

Barbara Bank, Eleanor Durfee, Fran Ferentinos,
Leah Ferentinos, Rebecca Goldstein Kahn,
Merri Pell-Preus, Ilene Pinsker, Heidi Thirer



"The Reporter" (USPS 096-280) is published weekly for \$36 per year by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734. Periodicals Postage Paid at Vestal, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734 or reach us by e-mail at TREPORTER@AOL.COM.

www.thereporter.org

Comedian Judy Gold at Auburn Public Theater

Comedian Judy Gold will appear at the Auburn Public Theater, in Auburn, on Saturday, January 13, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$17 at the door.

Gold has had stand-up specials on HBO, Comedy Central and LOGO. She has also written and starred in two critically acclaimed, Off-Broadway hit shows: "The Judy Show – My Life as a Sitcom" (Outer Critics Circle Nomination) and "25 Questions for a Jewish Mother"

(GLAAD Media Award – Outstanding NY Theater and Drama Desk nomination – Actor). *The New York Times* called "25 Questions for a Jewish Mother" "fiercely funny, honest and moving."

Gold recently appeared on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" and has had numerous appearances on talk shows such as "The View" and "The Today Show." Her other recent TV appearances include guest-starring

roles on "Broad City," "Friends From College," "The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" and "The Jim Gaffigan Show." She also won two Emmy awards for writing and producing "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." In addition, she has written for *The New York Times*, Huffington Post and CNN.com.

For more information visit <http://auburnpublictheater.org/> or contact the theater at 315-702-8309.

Sisterhoods plan January events

TI Sisterhood to hold afternoon of games

The Temple Israel Sisterhood has invited all interested women to share an afternoon of cards, board games and other table games on Tuesday, January 9, from noon-3 pm, in the temple's social hall. The charge for the event, which will include a light lunch, is \$5 per person. Attendees will also have the chance to participate in a raffle drawing.

Reservations are requested and may be submitted to Tammy Kunsman in the office at 723-7461, or titammy@stny.twcbc.com.

Beth David Sisterhood meeting to look at genealogy and computers

By Paula Rubin

For the fifth year in a row, Beth David Sisterhood will offer a free, hands-on computer class open to all members of the community. This year's class will explore genealogy. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, from 1-2:30 pm, at the George F. Johnson Memorial Library Central Library (Endicott Public Library), 1001 Park St., Endicott. Each attendee will have his/her own computer to use and the instructor will be Gail Seliga. There is elevator access to the room

where the meeting will be held. Light refreshments will be served.

"This meeting has become increasingly popular over the years, with different subject matter offered each time," organizers noted. This year's meeting will explore the different sites a person can use to find their ancestors and trace their genealogy. The course is designed for all levels of computer skills, from the novice to the experienced.

For more information, call Beth David Synagogue at 722-1793.

Temple Concord Sisterhood to cook for a cause

Temple Concord Sisterhood and Michelle McIlroy, a Temple Concord member and owner of Phantom Chef Catering, will hold a "Make Your Own Pasta class" on Sunday, January 21, from 4-6 pm, at Phantom Chef's new culinary studio, 49 Washington Ave., Endicott.

Participants will learn to make hand-cut and machine-cut pasta, as well as ricotta-filled ravioli. At the end, they'll enjoy the vegetarian meal they prepared.

Registration is \$40 and Phantom Chef will donate 20

percent of the sign-ups to Temple Concord's Religious School as part of its Cook for a Cause program. Checks should be payable to Phantom Chef and sent to Rachel Coker, 7 Laine Ct., Apalachin, NY 13732.

Anyone interested in attending should contact Coker at rachelmcocker@gmail.com to register by Friday, January 12. Class size is limited to ensure individual attention, but the minimum is 16 registered and paid.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

As 2018 begins, Israel's population reaches 8.79 million

(*Israel Hayom*/Exclusive to JNS) – Israel's population reached approximately 8.79 million on the last day of 2017, the country's Central Bureau of Statistics said on Dec. 31. Some 6.55 million Israelis – 74.6 percent of the population – are Jewish, the bureau said. About 1.83 million, accounting for 20.9 percent of the population, are Arabs. The remaining 4.5 percent – about 400,000 people – are others, including non-Arab Christians and those with no religion. The figures do not include foreign workers or people without permanent residency status in Israel. The bureau said Israel's population increased by about 165,000 people – 1.9 percent – in 2017, similar to the average annual increase during the past decade. Most of this increase, 82 percent, was the result of natural growth (births over deaths), while the rest came from net immigration. Some 180,000 babies were born in Israel in 2017 – 73.8 percent of them Jewish and 23.3 percent of them Arab. About 44,000 people died in Israel during the year. About 27,000 people made *aliyah* in 2017 and 10,000 immigrated to Israel through other frameworks. Most of the immigrants came from Russia (27.1 percent), Ukraine (25.5 percent), France (13 percent) and the U.S. (9.8 percent).

Chabon Continued from page 18

"Moonglow" is well written and well paced, and the grandfather is a fascinating character – a wonderful, complicated and flawed human being – someone who, when he makes a promise, struggles to keep it even if it means closing his eyes to reality. Even with this, though, the novel never took wings. Perhaps this is because the narrator and his mother are never fully realized. Something was lacking when the focus changed to them. That means that while "Moonglow" is a good solid addition to Chabon's canon, it's not a great one.

While "Moonglow" looks to the past, Englander's novel focuses on contemporary times, particularly the relationship of American Jews to Israel. It also raises the question of whether or not the ends can justify the means, particularly when it comes to saving Israeli lives. The story moves back and forth between two time periods: the year 2002, when the results of a Mossad operation leave an American Jew wondering how culpable he is for the loss of life, and 2014, where the reverberations from that mission still affect the lives of several characters.

For a novel that includes an intelligence operation, "Dinner at the Center of the Earth" is unexpectedly far more character than plot driven. In fact, there is actually very little plot action: it's the very different thoughts of two featured characters that make it interesting. The spy known as Z, an American who agreed to help Israel thinking his work was designed to help move the peace process forward, learns to his dismay that life is more complex than he expected – especially when his actions are considered a betrayal to his fellow Jews. On the other side of the issue is an unnamed general – a fierce and feared opponent who now lies in a coma – who believes in "satisfactory retributive justice." He takes the words the author attributes to another Israeli leader to heart: "Don't stop until killing a Jew becomes too expensive for even the rich and profligate man. That

is your whole purpose on earth... You were put here solely to raise the bounty hung on the Jewish head. Make it expensive. Make it a rare and fine delicacy for those with a taste for Jewish blood." Yet, some of his followers believe if he had not fallen ill, the general would have finally led the country to peace.

Early on, Englander acknowledges the problem between Israel and the Palestinians: "There is no knowing when, or even if, the bloodshed will ever end. Only that both sides will battle for justice, killing each other in the name of those freshly killed, honoring the men who died avenging those who, before them, died avenging." At least one character believes that the violence must end, but can only envision a personal, rather than a political, ending.

The puzzle offered in "Dinner at the Center of the Earth" is satisfying and absorbing until the last several chapters of the novel. To give specific details would spoil the plot, but, in those chapters, the characters and the action felt unbelievable, as if the author couldn't bear to finish the book without offering a note of hope. That's understandable in the complex moral drama offered, but the disconnect of those pages felt unconvincing and unnecessary, creating an unsatisfactory conclusion to an otherwise well done work.

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Rabbi Aaron Slonim on the death of his father,
Rabbi Zev Dov Slonim

ERNEST H. PARSONS FUNERAL HOME
Faithfully Serving Broome County Since 1928



PRE-ARRANGEMENTS AND PRE-FUNDING AVAILABLE
Joseph Fritsch
Managing Director

71 Main St., Binghamton, NY 13905
Phone 607-724-1336
Fax 800-948-5844

parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com
www.ParsonsFuneral.com

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Judy Gold

- ✓ Comedian
- ✓ Actor
- ✓ Writer
- ✓ Host
- ✓ Big Mouth



SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 at 8pm
MAIN STAGE

Tickets:
Advance: \$15.00 • Door: \$17.00
Student Rush: \$10.00

315.253.6669
auburnpublictheater.org
8 Exchange Street, Auburn NY



Women's OB/GYN Associates is pleased to welcome
Melodye Onysko, ANP, CNM



Melodye's personal warmth and extensive knowledge helps patients interested in holistic approaches to women's health care.
She is now accepting new patients who are seeking:

- Traditional and Holistic Gynecology
- Early Pregnancy Care
- Birth Control Options including IUD's and Nexplanon
- Infertility Counseling and Testing
- Menopausal Support with Bio-Identical Hormone Therapy
- Weight Management

Melodye Onysko offers the area's only Optifast program including Advanced Body Composition and other Nutritional Supplements!

607.754.9870
Women's OB/GYN Associates
401 Main Street, 1st Flr.
Johnson City, NY 13790
my.womensobgyn.info



Dr. Carol Miller,
Dr. Marianne Davis and
Karen Castoro FNP



Everyone on Google was searching for Gal Gadot in 2017

By Ben Sales

(JTA) – Is Gal Gadot the most famous Israeli ever?

Judging by 2017's top Google searches, the answer might be yes. Gadot was the sixth-most searched person worldwide, and the third-most searched actor.

The 32-year-old, who was born and raised in Israel and served in the Israel Defense Forces, starred in two movies this year: her breakout film "Wonder Woman" and the ensemble superhero flick "Justice League." The movies were the #2 and #5 most-searched films, respectively.

Google didn't say how many searches each term got, but searches for Gadot peaked worldwide the week of June 5, when "Wonder Woman" premiered in the U.S. There

were also spikes the week after she hosted "Saturday Night Live" in October, and the week in November when "Justice League" had its U.S. premiere.

Where is Gadot most popular? Not Israel, her home country, nor the United States, where she lives now. She was most popular in the Philippines, where she was the second-most searched person overall. Other southeast Asian countries also have Gadot-mania: Both Singapore and Malaysia searched for Gadot far more than the average country. So did Puerto Rico and Costa Rica. In the United States, she barely cracked the top 10, coming in at number 10.

Worldwide, Gadot ranked below disgraced "Today" host Matt Lauer (#1); American actress-turned-British

princess bride Meghan Markle (#2) and, surprisingly, Nadia Toffa (#3), an Italian TV presenter who erroneously reported a dangerous nuclear experiment was planned.

Still, Gadot came in above first lady Melania Trump (#7) as well as Michael Flynn (#9), the former national security adviser who pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI.

But the funniest data point on Gadot might be one of the top searches related to her name: "gal gadot husband shirt." People typing in that term are probably looking for an Instagram post by Gadot's husband, real estate developer Yaron Versano, in which he's wearing a shirt comparing "your wife" (a generic ladies' room symbol) See "Gadot" on page 5

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Firehouse Holdings, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was November 21, 2017. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Lewis Gray, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/07/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 325 Death Valley Rd., Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of RPE Homes, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/09/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: P.O. Box 343, Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

G & B BREWING, LLC - NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ("LLC")

Articles of Organization of G & B BREWING, LLC filed with the NYS Secretary of State (NYSS) on 11/29/2017. Office of LLC is in Broome County. NYSS designated as agent for service of process against it. NYSS shall mail process to 72 Lewis Road, Binghamton, NY 13905. Business purpose: any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of 3310 East Main Street, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/10/17. Office location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 3630 Montebello Street, Santa Ynez, CA 93460. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The name of the Limited Liability Company is: TONY'S LAWN CARE & SNOW REMOVAL LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was November 27, 2017. The County in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company to 3571 Smith Drive, Endwell, New York 13760. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: CoreLife of Albany, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/20/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of

process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date of dissolution: None.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: J & P Khamken Industries, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/10/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date of dissolution: None.

Notice of Formation of Popcorn Realty, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/28/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 300 Plaza Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT : BROOME COUNTY

SUMMONS
Index No.: EFCYA2017002568
RJI No.: 2017-1432-X
Assigned Justice:
Hon. Rita Conneron, A.J.S.C.

VISIONS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Plaintiff,
v.
ALBERT D. MILLER, JR., if living, and if he be dead, any and all persons who are wives, widows, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, other claimants against the assets of the decedent and/or his estate, heirs, devisees, distributees or successors in interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; DOUGLAS S. MILLER, ALBERT DANIEL MILLER, III a/k/a A. DANIEL MILLER a/k/a DANIEL MILLER, TIMOTHY MILLER, CORTLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, THE STATE OF NEW YORK; and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendants.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in the above-entitled action and to serve a copy of your answer on the Plaintiff's attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons exclusive of the date of service or within 30 days after completion of service, if service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the state. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within 60 days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Broome County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the mortgaged premises.

Dated: October 6, 2017
s/ William M. Thomas
William M. Thomas
ASWAD & INGRAHAM, LLP
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Office and P.O. Address
46 Front Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

(607) 722-3495

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

NOTICE

To: All Defendants, as described in the foregoing Summons

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Rita Conneron, an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated November 30, 2017, and filed with the complaint and other papers in the office of the Clerk of the County of Broome, at Binghamton, New York.

The action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage given by Albert D. Miller, Jr., to Visions Federal Credit Union. Said mortgage secures the sum of \$100,000.00 and was recorded in the Broome County Clerk's Office on June 27, 2013 in Book 3627 of Mortgages at page 286. Said foreclosure action will result in the sale of the mortgaged premises at a public auction, under a referee, and will terminate any and all interests and claims in and to the mortgaged premises. No money judgment is sought.

The mortgaged premises subject to this action is commonly known as 905 Neal Road, Town of Union, County of Broome, State of New York and is more accurately described in the above referenced mortgage. Dated: December 11, 2017.

s/ William M. Thomas
William M. Thomas
ASWAD & INGRAHAM, LLP
Attorneys for Visions Federal Credit Union
Office and P.O. Address
46 Front Street
Binghamton, New York 13905
Tel: 607/722-3495

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: Red Beard, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/13/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date of dissolution: None.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

To place a legal notice, contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org

- The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Rowe 1024, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 18, 2017.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 225 Lester Avenue, Johnson City, New York 13790.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Community Connection Ventures, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 18, 2017. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Moore Family Holdings, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 18, 2017. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Perna Family, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 18, 2017. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ronald L. Greene, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC)
Fly Cutz Barbershop LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on November 13, 2017. Office Location: Broome County 138 Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 138 Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which LLCs may be formed under the New York LLC law.

Notice of Formation of TDS Enterprises of Broome, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/14/17. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1865 NYS Route 11, Kirkwood, NY 13765. Purpose: any lawful activities.

1104 MONROE STREET, LLC, Art. of Org. filed NY DOS 12/3/13, Broome Co./S C/O The LLC 204-15 23rd Ave., Bayside, NY 11361. To engage in any lawful act or activity. Perpetual existence. Full indemnification.

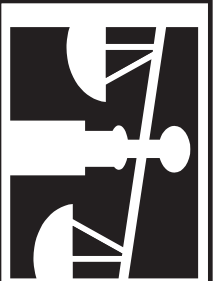
DKM Management Group LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 10/3/2017. Cty: Broome SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Michael DiFrancisco, 3698 Collector Ln., Bethpage, NY 11714. General Purpose.

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC)

Name: Gerchman Enterprises LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on December 27, 2017. Office Location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 2001 Bernard Blvd, Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which LLCs may be formed under the New York LLC law.

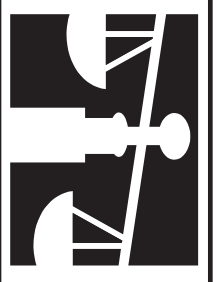
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

- The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Chris' Diner, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 28, 2017.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 192 State Street, Binghamton, NY 13901.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.



For information on legal notice advertising, please contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org
www.thereporter.org

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton



A rabbinical student is explaining Judaism to Muslims – in Arabic

By Ben Sales

(JTA)—Is it true that Judaism doesn't accept converts? Is it true that Jews have to wash their hands before they pray? Is it true that Jews have historically killed their prophets?

These are just a few of the questions Elhanan Miller has heard over the years. A fluent Arabic speaker and former Arab affairs correspondent for the *Times of Israel*, Miller saw that many Muslims he knew didn't have a clear understanding of Jewish practices and beliefs. So he decided to start teaching Muslims about Judaism, in a language and context they can relate to.

"Islam purports to tell Muslims about what Judaism is about," Miller, 36, told JTA. "But I think it's a value to Muslims to hear what Judaism is about from an actual believer."

That's the idea behind Miller's new project, "People of the Book," a series of short animated videos that explain Jewish faith and ritual in Arabic and compare them to similar Muslim practices. It appears to be the first video series of its kind: an explanation of Judaism for Muslims in what, for many, is their native language. The first two videos have racked up hundreds of thousands of views on Facebook and Youtube.

The first video, released in July, compares keeping kosher with keeping *halal*. It explains that *kashrut*, like *halal*, forbids pork and has laws around slaughtering animals. But *kashrut* prohibits eating shellfish, for example, while *halal* permits eating any creature of the sea.

A second video, released in December, covers Jewish prayer (three times a day vs. five for Muslims, with less kneeling on the floor). Miller is planning more videos on clothing and modesty, Jewish conceptions of God and fasting in Judaism.

"There's a big overlap between Judaism and Islam in those specific areas," he said. "Islam has dietary laws like Judaism, and the structures of daily prayers at fixed times are similar in Judaism and Islam. I thought it would be good to start with the commonalities before going into the differences."

Miller is an observant Jew who was born in Jerusalem to Canadian parents. He fell in love with Arabic when he began studying it in seventh grade, and continued using it during his service in the Israel Defense Forces and in college.

He earned a master's degree in Islamic studies from Hebrew University, and has been a journalist for eight years, doing much of his reporting on the Arab world. Miller also studies at Beit Midrash Har'el, a traditional egalitarian rabbinical school in Jerusalem. The school has shared links to his videos, and he sees bridging between the two religions as part of his rabbinic calling.

"I want to be a rabbi who brings peace to the world," he said.

Miller started producing the videos after teaching Muslims about Judaism as part of the Shorashim project, which brings Jews from the West Bank settlement bloc of Gush Etzion together with their Palestinian neighbors. Together, they do joint activities, like shared meals and agricultural work. He

figured the same lessons would interest a wider audience, which has proved true.

The videos take several weeks to produce together with two partners: an animator in Israel and a native Arabic speaker who co-narrates the script.

There's one topic, however, that Miller isn't planning to tackle anytime soon: Israel. He may address Jerusalem, which is holy to Jews and Muslims, in a future video, but says that broaching sensitive issues could derail the larger project of promoting understanding.

"My aim is not to do Israeli *hasbara*," he said, using a Hebrew term for public relations. "I speak in these videos as a Jew more than an Israeli, because Israel is a contentious issue and I'm trying to build credibility and even sympathy with my followers."



Elhanan Miller, a journalist and rabbinical student who speaks fluent Arabic, sees his videos as a way to bridge a religious divide. (Photo by Bruria Hammer)

To maintain that relationship between videos, Miller recently held a Facebook live session in Arabic about Judaism in "ask me anything" form. The questions concerned everything from the status of Moses in both religions to how Jews view other faiths.

Of course, Jews have plenty of misconceptions about Islam as well, Miller said – like some who mistakenly think that Jews suffered more, historically, under Muslim rule than under Christian rule. But while he'd love to collaborate on a similar video series that explains Islam to Jews, he said that he – as a non-Muslim – is not the right person to lead that project.

"I don't see it as my job to explain Islam to Jews," he said. "It has to be someone from that faith."

Dine Out

We have a place set just for you... and your ad!

To advertise, contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereportergroup.org

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Catering
Extra Parking in Rear
WIFI

EAT BASHA'S
Fresh & Healthy
Lunch Combo \$8.54
11:30am - 4:00pm
Your Choice of 1 Sandwich (Beef/Chicken Shawarma or Falafel)
1 Side (Salad, French Fries or Rice)
and any drink out of the fridge
Call 15 minutes in advance and your order will be ready to pick up
3748 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, NY
607-217-5288
WWW.BASHASGRILL.COM

Hours: Mon-Wed: 11:30am - 8pm • Thurs-Sat: 11:30am - 9pm • Closed Sunday

Join us daily 3-6p, for

GAPPY HOUR!

Half Price Draughts, Well Drinks, & select glasses of Wine!

LOST DOG

Café

222 Water St • Downtown Binghamton
607.771.6063 • lostdog.cafe

SPIEDIE & RIBBIT

Spiedie meat by the pound for your own grill. Chicken or pork, fresh Italian bread, fresh salads and more.

CALL AHEAD

1268 Front Street
Binghamton • 722-7628

3908 Vestal Parkway East
Vestal • 729-2679

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

IDF launches special training school for commando soldiers

(Israel Hayom/Exclusive to JNS) – IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Gadi Eizenkot has decided to establish a training school for the Israeli military's elite commando brigade, the army announced on Dec. 31. Established in December 2015, the 89th Oz (Courage) Brigade brings together four special forces units, as part of the 98th Paratroopers Division: Maglan, which specializes in operations deep behind enemy lines; Duvdevan, which specializes in undercover urban warfare operations across Judea and Samaria; Egoz, a reconnaissance unit specializing in anti-guerrilla warfare that operates mainly in the northern sector; and Rimon, which specializes in desert warfare and is deployed along Israel's southern border.

Gadot •Continued from page 4

to "my wife" (a drawing of Wonder Woman). In the photo, Gadot is sitting next to him with a huge grin on her face.



Gadot isn't the only Jew to make Google's top 10 lists. Harvey Weinstein, the Hollywood mogul accused of sexual abuse by 90 women, was number four on the list of most-searched people.

However, despite persistent internet rumors – and despite having been photographed in 2005 wearing a "Chai Maintenance" t-shirt – it bears repeating that royal-to-be Meghan Markle is not Jewish.

Gal Gadot was the sixth most searched person on Google in 2017. (Photo by Dia Dipasupil/Getty Images)

ORTESE Restaurant

Italian-American Cuisine

Try Our Famous Steaks, Prime Rib, Thick Pork Chops, Seafood, Italian Specialties, Including Homemade Pasta Dishes & Desserts.

Complete Menu for Take-Out & Pizza 723-6477

For Dinner Reservations Call 723-6440
Hours: Mon. 11:30 am -10 pm • Tues. Closed
Wed.-Thurs. 11:30 am -10 pm • Fri.-Sat. 11:30 am -11 pm
Sun. 12 - 9 pm
117 Robinson St. on Binghamton's East Side
All Major Credit Cards

www.corteserestaurant.com

Celebrating our 46th Year in Business!

The Silo Restaurant

Our gift to you...

One Surf & Turf for \$24.00

Includes a 10 oz. hand-cut New York Strip Steak and your choice of 4 oz. Lobster Tail or 6 oz. broiled sea scallops or 1/2-lb. of snow crab legs!
Sunday thru Thursday, from now 'til February 8 - don't miss it!
Open Tuesday-Sunday • Sunday (Brunch) 10 am - 3 pm, (Dinner) 1-8pm
Take Rt. 12 North to Greene, right at light, 6 mi. east on Rt. 206 (approx. 30 min.)
Make your reservations now! 656-4377 All major credit cards accepted
www.thesilorestaurant.com

see what's brewing!

Our Dine-Out section is featured in these issues:
February 2 (deadline January 25)
March 2 (deadline February 22)
April 6 (deadline March 29)

Contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereportergroup.org

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

½ Priced Bottles of Wine Every Tuesday!

Citrea

Restaurant and Bar

7 Court St., Suite 3, Binghamton, NY 13901 • (607)722-0039
www.citreapizza.com



Weekly Parasha

Shemot, Exodus 1:1-6:1

Twelve sons and 12 daughters

RABBI MOLLY KARP, TEMPLE BETH EL, ONEONTA

This week's *parasha*, the first *parasha* in the Book of Exodus, picks up where the Book of Genesis ended, restating the notice of the 12 sons of Jacob who came down to Egypt with their households during the time of famine, when Joseph was second to Pharaoh in the land: "These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each coming with his household: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher." (Exodus 1:1-4)

Twelve sons of Jacob bring Israel down to Egypt, counting Joseph who is already in the land.

A new king rises over Egypt who did not know Joseph. This king wishes to limit the number of Israelites, lest they rise up against him, and so he summons the midwives of the Hebrews. Whether these are Egyptian or Hebrew wom-

en who serve the daughters of Jacob is unclear; they are simply the Hebrew midwives Shiprah and Puah. Pharaoh instructs the midwives to kill any boy babies that are born to the Israelites, by throwing them into the Nile.

The text tells us that: "The midwives, fearing God, did not do as the king of Egypt had told them; they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this thing, letting the boys live?' The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women: they are vigorous. Before the midwife can come to them, they have given birth.' And God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and increased greatly. And because the midwives feared God, He established households for them." (Exodus 1: 17-21)

Fearing God, but not the king of Egypt, the midwives choose the righteous side of the conflict, preserving life, and are rewarded for it by God. Allowing the Hebrews to grow families and multiply, they themselves are rewarded with houses, which can be understood as families.

Meanwhile: "A certain man of the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw how beautiful he was, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer, she got a wicker basket for him and caulked it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child into it and placed it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile." (Exodus 2:1-4)

This woman, the boy's mother, also disobeys Pharaoh's instructions and takes steps to allow her child to live. See "Twelve" on page 7

Congregational Notes

Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm
 Phone: 723-7355
 Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.

On Friday, January 5, at 8 pm, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Rachel Esserman. The oneg will be sponsored by Sisterhood.

On Saturday, January 6, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, adult education; and at 10:35 am, there will be family Shabbat services.

On Friday, January 12, at 8 pm, Shabbat services will be led by Hollie Levine and Brendan Byrnes. The oneg will be hosted by Eve Berman in memory of her father.

On Saturday, January 13, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, Torah study; and at 10:35 am, there will be family Shabbat services led by religious school staff and Jeff Strosberg.

Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive
 Rabbi: Dena Bodian
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815
 Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 373-5087
 Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.
 Adult Ed.: Saturday morning study is held at 10 am. Call for more information and to confirm.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Molly Karp
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820
 Phone: 607-432-5522
 Website: www.templebetheloneonta.org
 E-mail: TBEOneonta@gmail.com
 Regular service times: visit the temple website for days of services and times
 Religious School/Education: Religious School, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings. Rabbi Karp conducts services and holds classes in Torah, beginning Hebrew and Maimonides.
 For schedules of services, classes and events, see the website.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Scott L. Glass
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
 Phone: 273-5775
 E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org
 President: Jerry Davis
 Sisterhood President: Julie Paige
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody
 Administrative Assistant: Jane Griffith
 Services: Friday 8 pm; Saturday 10 am, unless otherwise announced. Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sundays and legal holidays).
 Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:45 pm. The Midrashah (eighth-grade and high school) classes will meet at times designated by their respective teachers.
 Adult Ed.: Numerous weekly courses, several semester-long courses and a variety of mini-courses and lectures are offered throughout the year. Call the temple office for more details.

On Friday-Saturday, January 5-6, in honor of Shabbat Shemot (shemot means "names") those attending services are encouraged to wear name tags.

On Saturday, January 6, Tot Shabbat will be held at 11:15 am.

On Saturday, January 13, Shabbat Yeladim services will be held at 11:15 am.

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 607-722-1793, Rabbi's Office: 607-722-7514
 Fax: 607-722-7121
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com
 Website: www.bethdavid.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Friday, Jan. 5.....4:30 pm
 Shabbat, Jan. 6.....9 am
 Mincha after the kiddush
 Maariv 5:50 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., Jan. 7.....8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., Jan. 8-127 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., Jan. 7.....4:35 pm
 Mon.-Thurs., Jan. 8-117 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

On Tuesday, January 9, from 1-2:30 pm, the Sisterhood will hold a class on how to use a computer to research genealogy. The class will be held at the George Johnson Memorial Library in Endicott. For more information, see the article on page 3 or call the synagogue at 722-1793.

Penn-York Jewish Community

President and Treasurer-Secretary: Harvey Chernosky, 570-265-3869
 B'nai B'rith: William H. Seigel Lodge
 Purpose: To promote Jewish identity through religious, cultural, educational and social activities in the Southern Tier of New York and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania, including Waverly, NY; Sayre, Athens and Towanda, PA, and surrounding communities.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY
 Phone: 607-256-1471
 Website: www.tikkunvor.org
 E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org
 Presidents: Miranda Phillips and Shawn Murphy
 Rabbi: Brian Walt
 Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky
 Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Family services and Tot Shabbat once a month at 6:30 pm. Call for weekly schedules.
 Religious School: Preschool through seventh-grade classes meet on Sunday mornings. Sixth-grade Hebrew and seventh-grade b'nai mitzvah classes meet on Wednesday afternoons.
 Adult Ed: Mini courses throughout the year. Adult Hebrew offered regularly. Call the office for details.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Louis Wilson, louiswilson1995@yahoo.com
 Service leaders: Lay leadership
 Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.
 Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis. Temple Brith Sholom is a small equalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is "Likrat Shabbat," while the Saturday morning siddur is "Gates of Prayer." The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

Friday, January 5, light candles.....4:28 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, January 65:29 pm
 Friday, January 12, light candles.....4:35 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, January 135:37 pm

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm.
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service Schedule: Tuesday and Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am.

On Saturday, January 6, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 1:1-6:1. The haftarah will be Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23. The kiddush sponsor will be Harriet Horowitz.

The Temple Israel Sisterhood will hold a card and game afternoon on Tuesday, January 9, noon-3 pm. Call or e-mail the temple office for reservations. (See the article on page 3.)

There will be a Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, January 16, at 7 pm.

Steve Gilbert will present the "Best of Yiddish Radio Project," an Adult Ed. Brunch and Program, on Sunday, January 21, at 10 am. The cost is \$5 per person.

Those who wish to recite the Mourner's Kaddish during a weekday service can contact Howard Schwartz at schwerz@stny.rr.com or call the temple office one-and-a-half weeks or more before the date to ensure time to make up a minyan. Temple Israel holds weekday minyan services on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:30 pm. For those who prefer a different day to coincide with a yahrzeit date, contact the temple to make arrangements. To see a video on how to recite the Mourner's Kaddish, visit <http://templeisraelvestal.org> and look under "Worship."

Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch
 Rabbi: Aaron Slonim, E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095
 Website: www.Chabadofbinghamton.com
 Chabad on the West Side
 Rabbi: Zalman Chein, E-mail: zchein@JewishBU.com
 Address: 27 Bennet Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-3252
 Regular service times: Daily 7:30 am, Friday evening 6 pm, Shabbat morning 9:30 am, Maariv and Havdalah one hour after candle-lighting time, Sundays 9:30 am.
 Linking Hearts for youngsters with special needs: This program connects Jewish special-needs children and teenagers, ages 5-14, who have mental, physical and/or functional disabilities, with student volunteers who will visit participating youngsters weekly in their homes.
 To join the mailing list, for up-to-date information on adult education offerings or to arrange for a private tutorial, for details concerning the Judaica shop and resource center, or for assistance through the Piaker Free Loan Society or Raff Maasim Tovim Foundation, call Chabad's office at 797-0015.

Kol Haverim

Affiliation: Society for Humanistic Judaism
 Address: P.O. Box 4972, Ithaca, NY 14852-4972
 Phone: 607-277-3345
 E-mail: info@kolhaverim.net
 Website: www.kolhaverim.net
 Chairman: Jonathan Joseph
 Kol Haverim: The Finger Lakes Community for Humanistic Judaism, is an Ithaca-based organization that brings people together to explore and celebrate Jewish identity, history, culture and ethics within a secular, humanistic framework. KH is part of an international movement for Secular Humanistic Judaism and is affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism, a national association with over 30 member communities and congregations around the country. Established in the spring of 1999, it offers celebrations of Jewish holidays, monthly Shabbat pot-lucks, adult education, a twice-monthly Cultural School for children, and a bar and bat mitzvah program.
 KH welcomes all individuals and families, including those from mixed religious backgrounds, who wish to strengthen the Jewish experience in their lives and provide their children with a Jewish identity and experience.

Jewish Community Center

Third Annual Breakfast Ball at the JCC on Jan. 21

The Jewish Community Center of Binghamton will host its third annual Breakfast Ball on Sunday, January 21, at 10 am, at the JCC, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. Admission is \$5 per person, \$20 per family max. Reservations are appreciated and can be made with ECC Assistant Director Nichole Fuller at 724-2417, ext. 431.

The event is family oriented and open to the entire community. "Children and their families can come and eat breakfast with their favorite characters," said Marley Vavra, the ECC administrative assistant and one of the event organizers. Several Disney, Marvel and DC characters will be in attendance, including Snow White, Rapunzel, Spiderman, Power Rangers and more. There will be formal photo opportunities for children to take pictures with their favorite characters for a \$5 fee, benefitting the Early Childhood Center.

The breakfast will feature standard breakfast offerings along with other activities, such as music for dancing, coloring and a formal story time. "We wanted to host a fun



Princesses posed at last year's Breakfast Ball.

event for children and their families to attend," said Vavra. The contributions from the fund-raiser go to the JCC's Early Childhood Center. The ECC is a place that seeks to

"provide a warm and caring environment where children explore, experiment, play, grow and learn to ask questions." Programming is offered for infants through age 5, including full-day daycare and preschool, half-day preschool, art and physical education classes, and Universal Pre-Kindergarten. "The proceeds go toward items needed in the classrooms that create an overall better environment for the children," noted Fuller. Proceeds from previous Breakfast Balls were used to purchase items such as thermometers, cots and classroom manipulatives.

For more information about the Breakfast Ball, ECC programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 607-724-2417.

The JCC is a not-for-profit organization and partner agency of the United Way and the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton that serves the community at large regardless of age, race, religion and sexual orientation. Financial assistance is available to all who qualify as long as funds remain.

Twelve Continued from page 6

Technically obeying the king's instructions to put the boy babies in the Nile, she places him carefully in a waterproof basket and sets it afloat on the river.

Next, the Torah tells us: "And his sister stationed herself at a distance, to learn what would befall him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe in the Nile, while her maidens walked along the Nile. She spied the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to fetch it. When she opened it, she saw that it was a child, a boy crying. She took pity on it and said, 'This must be a Hebrew child.' Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a Hebrew nurse to suckle the child for you?' And Pharaoh's daughter answered, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother." (Exodus 2:4-8)

Two daughters, the daughter of the baby's mother and the daughter of Pharaoh himself, join forces to save this baby's life. Working against Pharaoh's desire to have all the Hebrew baby boys killed, these two nameless women (later we come to know the sister as Miriam and Pharaoh's daughter as Bityah, daughter of Yah, named in I Chronicles 4:18 and associated in the *midrash* with our Pharaoh's daughter) watch over him, fish him out of the river, and work together to arrange for the boy's birth mother to nurse him (generally, this would have been a period of three or so years).

Much later, Moses grows to manhood. Looking about at the lives of his natal people, he sees an Egyptian slavedriver beating a Hebrew slave. Striking the Egyptian and killing him, Moses buries the man's body in the sand and flees Egypt for Midian, for he has learned that Pharaoh has heard of the matter and seeks to kill him.

"[Moses] arrived in the land of Midian, and sat down beside a well." (Exodus 2:15)

Of course, we the readers know that the well is where young men go to meet young women, as Abraham's servant did with Rebecca, and as Jacob did with Rachel. The Torah tells us that: "... the priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock; but shepherds came and drove them off. Moses rose to their defense, and he watered their flock. When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, 'How is it that you have come back so soon today?' They answered, 'An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock.' He said to his daughters, 'Where is he then? Why did you leave the man? Ask him in to break bread.' Moses consented to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Tziporah as wife." (Exodus 2:16-21)

Moses rescues the women from the local shepherds and, in turn, the seven daughters of the priest of Midian bring him home to their father. Taking Moses in, the father gives the eldest, Tziporah, to Moses as a wife.

Why does all this matter? Well, how many women are there in these opening chapters of Exodus? Let's see: two midwives, one birth mother, one sister, one daughter of Pharaoh, seven women at the well. That adds up to 12!

Twelve sons of Jacob bring Israel down to Egypt... 12 daughters work together to protect, bear, nurture, rescue and shelter the future savior of Israel, the one who would bring them up from Egypt!

The Torah is letting us know that these women are instrumental in the salvation of the Israelite people; that it was not God and Moses alone who brought Israel out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, but a group of 12 women, parallel to the 12 sons of Jacob, who, using women's wisdom, nurturing, secrecy and sheltering, womb and breast, preserve life when Pharaoh seeks to destroy it, and were equal and indispensable parts of the Exodus from Egypt.

Together, let's celebrate all of the women and men who have acted courageously to help and preserve the people Israel, Israelites and others, Jews and non-Jews alike. Together, we all can bring God into the world and make the world a better place for all.

JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club met on December 27. I was early and sat alone wondering if anyone would come. Some of our members are either in Florida for the winter, have out of town guests or have colds. The weather outside was frightful. The temperature was in the single digits, but it hadn't started to snow yet. That was predicted for that night and expected to continue for a few days.

I decided to fill my time by writing my reminiscences about all the Chanukah parties that I attended: on December 18 at Castle Gardens, on December 20 at Brookdale East and on December 21 at Hill Top. The programs were presented to those who live in assisted living facilities.

I would like to thank Rabbi Geoffrey Brown from Temple Israel for helping to tell about the story of Chanukah and some of the customs during the party at Castle Gardens. He brought music sheets and we sang Chanukah songs. Bruce Orden brought his mother to the party. She is a resident at this facility. I want to thank Temple Concord for lending me dreidels. Each resident was given one to read the letters on the side and to spin it. We discussed what the letters stood for. Chanukah cards were given to the Jewish residents and calendars were put at the entrance. Thanks go to Paula Francisca, activities director, and her staff for passing out latkes, applesauce, sour cream and drinks.

On December 20, the JCC Friendship Club went across the street and joined the residents at Brookdale East for their Chanukah party. Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu brought the children from Hillel Academy who sang songs in Hebrew. Rabbi Shmaryahu lit the candles in the menorah and the children sang the blessings with him. I provided kosher cookies and juice for them after their performance. We admired their enthusiasm. They sang loud as a group and individually. After they left, I told the story of Chanukah and reviewed the letters on the dreidels. Refreshments were served thanks to Krys Zduniak, activities director, and Coleen Hunt, director. Music sheets were passed out and we sang Chanukah songs. Then Chanukah cards were given to the Jewish residents. Calendars were left at the desk.

The party at Hill Top was held on December 21. We were entertained by Deb Foreman playing Chanukah music on the piano. Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell from Temple Concord and Rabbi Brown from Temple Israel told the story of the holiday and the customs. Thanks to Faye Clark, activities director, and her staff for the latkes and

drinks that were served. Chanukah cards were given to the Jewish residents and calendars were left at the entrance. A good time was had by all.

Now that Chanukah is over, the next parties will be for Purim. Rabbi Benny Kellman stopped by while I was writing this and played the piano. He agreed to entertain at one of the Purim parties if he is in town. He had his 10-month-old son, Gersham, with him and I have to say that he is the cutest and smilingest baby around. Come join us at the JCC on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.

Sylvia Diamond
President

Moving any time soon? Or just leaving town for a few months?



Whether you're moving across town or across the country, please let *The Reporter* know so you can stay up to date on community news and quickly receive the paper at your new (or temporary) address! E-mail reporter@aol.com with "Reporter Address change" in the subject line, or call 607-724-2360, ext. 254, to let *The Reporter* know about your new address.

HOPLER & ESCHBACH FUNERAL HOME

"A new family tradition"

Personal Service
Professionalism
Experience You Can Trust

COMPARE OUR PRICES
We charge far less than other area funeral homes

Kurt M. Eschbach, Funeral Director
483 Chenango Street Binghamton
607-722-4023
www.HEfuneralhome.com



It just makes cents to advertise here in *The Reporter*!

To advertise, contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org.



THE 3RD ANNUAL BREAKFAST BALL

Sunday, January 21 • 10am

Come have breakfast with your favorite characters! Children are encouraged to dress up and can have their pictures taken with characters for an additional fee. RSVP's appreciated - please contact Nichole Fuller at 724-2417 ext. 431 or email nicholef@binghamtonjcc.org \$5/person or \$20/family

500 Clubhouse Rd.
Vestal, NY 13850
(607)724-2417

www.binghamtonjcc.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Palestinian teen seen slapping Israeli soldier in viral video is charged with assault

Ahed Tamimi, the 17-year-old Palestinian who was arrested for slapping and kicking an Israeli soldier, was indicted on Jan. 1 in a military court. The court indicted Tamimi on several counts, including aggravated assault, obstructing a soldier in the performance of his duty and throwing stones at troops. "Tamimi threw stones at [the soldiers], threatened them, obstructed their ability to fulfill their duty, took part in riots and incited others to take part in them," the IDF said. In December, a video of Tamimi went viral after she was filmed outside of her home pushing, kicking and slapping Israeli soldiers, who maintained their composure and did not retaliate. The footage of Tamimi, who has been hailed in Palestinian activist circles as an icon, sparked a debate in Israel about the soldiers' refusal to act. But the IDF praised the soldiers' restraint in the face of the provocations.

France denies targeting Jews for tax evasion with secretive investigative department

The French government has denied a report regarding a secretive department within the French Finance Ministry that allegedly targets Jews for tax evasion. France's General Directorate of Public Finance (or DGFIP) stated that it "categorically denies the completely unfounded assertions released today in the *Globes* newspaper, about the creation of a French tax department specializing in French Jews. ... There is no such structure within the French tax administration. The French tax law forbids any distinction between people based on their origin, place of residence, nationality or religion," DGFIP added. The denial came after the Israeli financial news outlet *Globes* reported the week of Dec. 29 that a "one of a kind" investigative department in France's Finance Ministry has 20 Hebrew-speaking employees and is in the process of hiring additional workers. The employees in the department are purportedly experts in Israeli law and are able to discern whether or not French Jews are using Israel as a tax haven. "Every tax authority has employees that speak a foreign language, but hiring 20 or more Hebrew-speaking investigators is very irregular," an international lawyer familiar with the secret French department reportedly told *Globes*.

Antisemitic incidents in U.S. surged 67 percent from January-September 2017, ADL says

The number of antisemitic incidents in the U.S. between Jan. 1 and Sept. 30, 2017, increased by 67 percent when compared with the same period in 2016, according to the Anti-Defamation League's annual report on antisemitism. The report documents 1,299 antisemitic incidents

across the U.S. from Jan. 1-Sept. 30 of last year, compared with 1,266 in all of 2016. ADL's Israel director, Carole Nuriel, presented the statistics on Jan. 1 to the Knesset's Committee for Immigration, Absorption and Diaspora Affairs. Nuriel emphasized that the report is not conclusive and that many additional antisemitic incidents go unreported, often due to victims fearing retaliation or complications with classifying an incident as antisemitic. She also underscored an increase in antisemitic bullying and vandalism within the U.S. school system, as such incidents more than doubled from 130 in 2016 to 269 from Jan. 1-Sept. 30, 2017.

U.N. won't increase Palestinian refugee budget after Israeli diplomatic efforts

(Israel Hayom/Exclusive to JNS) – The United Nations' Administrative and Budgetary Committee has rejected a request to increase funding for the world body's Palestinian refugee relief agency for the 2018-2019 timeframe. The Group of 77 – a 77-member coalition of developing nations, of which the Palestinian Authority is a member – submitted a request to increase the budget for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (or UNRWA) by around \$5 million. The bloc also asked for four additional slots for Palestinian representatives at the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (or UCTAD). According to its website, UCTAD's Assistance to the Palestinian People Unit has a "specific mandate to monitor and investigate the social and economic impact of policies of the Israeli occupation authorities in the Palestinian territory." The unit's annual report routinely accuses Israel of harming the Palestinian economy, undermining Palestinian development, and violating international law and U.N. resolutions. Following diplomatic efforts by the Israeli delegation to the U.N., spearheaded by Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Danon, the budgetary committee declined the Palestinians' requests to increase UNRWA's budget as well as the number of Palestinian UCTAD slots when it recently authorized the international body's budget. "It is inconceivable for the U.N. budget and the funds of countries intended for humanitarian assistance and development to be diverted toward incitement and be turned into a political battering ram," Danon said.

NBA removes "occupied Palestine" from league website after Israel intervenes

The National Basketball Association removed the term "Palestine – occupied territory" from the league's website after Israeli Culture and Sport Minister Miri Regev intervened. In a letter to NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, Regev described "Palestine" as "an imaginary state" and added that the league's listing was not in line with President Donald Trump's recent policy change on Jerusalem. Kathy Behrens, the NBA's president of social responsibility, told Israel National News that the country list was provided by a third party.

Eye-Catching
Classifieds

Sue Garing Honey
Raw Local Honey Varieties
Spring • Summer • Fall
Propolis, Pollen, Beeswax candles
Try a sample at the
Binghamton Regional
Farmers Market,
840 Upper Front Street
9-1 Saturdays all year
bcregionalmkt.com
suegaringhoney.com
607-775-5041

It just makes cents
to advertise
here in
The Reporter!
To advertise, contact
Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360,
ext. 244 or bonnie@
thereportergroup.org.

YOUR HEATING & PLUMBING SPECIALISTS
BAKER'S PLUMBING & HEATING
We Also Do Natural Gas Conversions & All Plumbing Work
Free Estimates • Fully Insured • Residential & Commercial
We Install, Service & Repair...
Furnaces • Air Conditioners
Water Heaters • Gas Fireplaces
SERVING BROOME & TIOGA COUNTIES
754-6376
pbaker927@yahoo.com

GARY RILEY
I'll drive you or
I'll deliver your vehicle near or far,
pets welcome!
REFERENCES AVAILABLE
607-760-0530
GRILES45@GMAIL.COM

KEVIN MICHA CONSTRUCTION
Interior and
Exterior Remodeling
Specializing in kitchens and baths
For a free estimate, call 607-221-5985
Licensed and insured

SUCCESS NETWORK
Success Network is a small business association whose members are exclusive in their category and are organized to assist each other in providing and receiving business leads.
Enjoy a free lunch on us when you become a member!
For more information or if you are interested in membership, please contact Bonnie Rozen at (607)724-2360, ext. 244.
Businesses helping businesses grow!
www.successnetworkbc.com

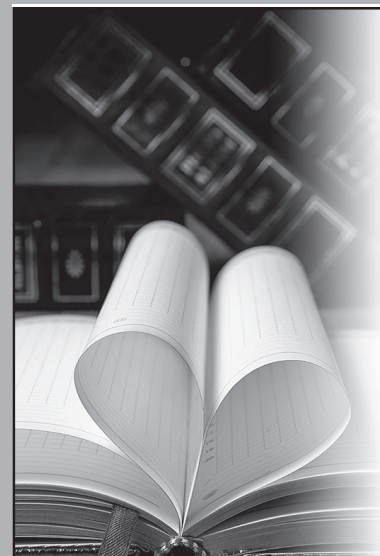
COOK'S TREE SERVICE
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
Our 48th Year
NEW YORK CHAPTER
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST
Professionals In All Phases Of:
• Tree Care • Tree Stump Removal
• Trimming Trees Shrubs & Tall Hedges
• Tree Insect & Disease Identification & Treatment
WWW.COOKSTREESERVICE.NET
607-748-2347
4 Pumphouse Rd Vestal, N.Y.

HANDYMAN 4 SENIORS, INC.
All your home maintenance and repairs, along with in-home care services. These care services include but are not limited to:
• Bath Assistance
• Meal Prep
• Cleaning
• Shopping, etc.
John Jacoby M.C.
Valerie Jacoby C.N.A.
(Licensed & Insured)
888-540-0320
www.handyman4seniors.com

Cleaning Services:
• Green Cleaning
• Real Estate Cleaning
• Passover Cleaning
• Domestic Cleaning
• Office Cleaning
• Commercial Cleaning
• Construction Cleaning
• Window Cleaning
house cleaning & special projects
\$25 per hour
Dust Bunnyez
Cleaning Service
www.dustbunnyez.com
(607) 644-8886
Bonded & Insured

LICENSED & INSURED
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Ron Schmidt
MASTER ELECTRICIAN
607-341-2289
RESIDENTIAL
Wiring, New and Old Construction
All types electrical
Serving the Tri-Cities Area

Please support our advertisers...
tell them you saw their ad here in **THE REPORTER**
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton



A Gift for You and Your Loved One
New Book by Martin Bidney
A Lover's Art: The Song of Songs in Musical English Meters, plus 280 Original Love Poems in Reply – A Dialogue with Scripture
Mystical, Mythical, Whimsical:
Lyrics in Solomon-Style to Woman, Wisdom, World
Jewish and Cosmopolitan
Dialogic Poetry Press
Available from Amazon